

Supplemental table 1. Description of the CIGNIS study population at recruitment

| | Basal-fortified porridge N=373 | Richly-fortified porridge N=370 |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Infant's characteristics</i> | | |
| Sex male | 191 (51) | 166 (45) |
| Birth weight, mean (SD) Kg | 3.05 (0.50) | 3.05 (0.46) |
| Stunted at 6 months (length for age < -2 Z) | 51 (14) | 40 (11) |
| Breastfeeding duration: | | |
| never | 22 (6) | 21 (6) |
| <6 months | 39 (11) | 29 (8) |
| breastfeeding at recruitment | 312 (84) | 320 (87) |
| Hb, mean (SD) g/L | 107.4 (12.0) | 107.4 (13.4) |
| Anemia, Hb <105 g/L | 140 (38) | 149 (41) |
| N | 351 | 341 |
| Serum ferritin, median (IQR) µg/L | 14.7 (6.9-25.6) | 15.5 (7.9-26.3) |
| Serum ferritin, <10 µg/L | 118 (33.6) | 102 (29.9) |
| N | 347 | 344 |
| Serum transferrin receptor, median (IQR) mg/L | 8.1 (6.7-10.1) | 8.1 (6.7-9.7) |
| Serum transferrin receptor >11.0 mg/L | 65 (18.7) | 58 (16.8) |
| N | 289 | 269 |
| Serum Zinc, median (IQR) µmol/L | 9.7 (8.5-10.9) | 9.8 (8.5-10.9) |
| Serum Zinc, <9.2 µmol/L*† | 117 (40.5) | 104 (38.6) |
| N | 174 | 178 |
| Vit A, median (IQR) µmol/L | 0.6 (0.5-0.9) | 0.7 (0.5-0.9) |
| Vit A <0.7 µmol/L | 100 (57.5) | 90 (50.6) |
| <i>Mother's characteristics</i> | | |
| Maternal antenatal HIV status† | | |
| Negative | 261 (70) | 258 (70) |
| Positive | 79 (21) | 78 (21) |
| Unknown | 33 (9) | 34 (9) |
| Mother's age (years) | 26.0 (5.7) | 26.4 (5.8) |
| Mother's education | | |
| primary or less | 123 (33) | 129 (35) |
| secondary | 157 (42) | 127 (34) |
| college/university | 93 (25) | 114 (31) |
| Mother's occupation | | |
| housewife | 214 (57) | 181 (49) |
| salaried employee | 61 (16) | 86 (23) |
| self-employed | 39 (11) | 31 (8) |
| other | 59 (16) | 72 (20) |
| Marital status | | |
| married | 278 (75) | 279 (75) |
| single | 79 (21) | 72 (20) |
| divorced, separated, widowed | 16 (4) | 19 (5) |
| Tertiles of socioeconomic status | | |
| low | 127 (34) | 123 (33) |
| middle | 151 (40) | 136 (37) |
| high | 95 (25) | 111 (30) |

Continuous variables summarized as specified in the table. Categorical variables summarized as number in groups (%).

*Taneja et al. (2010), *J Nutr* **140**, 630-4. †Sazawal et al. (1995) *N Engl J Med*, **333**, 839-44. ‡Six infants of mothers HIV-uninfected antenatally and one of an HIV-unknown mother tested HIV-infected by 18 months old.

Adapted from Filteau et al. (2009) *PloS one* **5**, e11165.